View from the
Blackdown Hills

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Call for villages to support AONB nature funding bid

VILLAGERS in the Blackdown Hills are being asked to show their support for a project which could bring over a quarter of a million pounds into the area.

Blackdown Hills Natural Futures is being developed by the Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership with the aim of helping local people to share their knowledge about the countryside, discover more about the wildlife on their doorsteps and develop their own ideas for looking after nature.

The project, which will have a cash value of £288,000, is currently in the development stage of an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund, having successfully got through the first round and received £3,600 to develop the plans.

Now the Blackdown Hills Natural Futures team needs to show how it will work on the ground with community nature projects.

Funding and development officer Pippa Rayner, said:"We want to hear from anyone who has an idea for a project which would benefit the people and wildlife in their parish, or would simply like to register their interest in getting involved.

"It could be anything from a establishing a community orchard to making homes for wildlife or creating nature trail around a village.

"If we can show that local people are behind Blackdown Hills Natural Futures and are ready to go with their ideas, we'll stand a much better chance of securing the money we need."

To show your support for Blackdown Hills Natural Futures or to find out more about the project, email the Blackdown Hills AONB team at blackdownhills@devon.gov.uk or call 01823 680681.

CHILDREN from Foxhogs class at Combe St Nicholas Primary School near Chard perform their Christmas Nativity. See page 5 for more photos

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WHAT Makes A View" project workers collect their highly commended award during a ceremony in London

Landscape project wins award

A PROJECT to celebrate and protect some of the most beautiful views in the region has won a highly commended award at a prestigious ceremony in London.

The "What Makes A View" project, commissioned by the Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership, won the accolade from the judges of the Landscape Institute Awards 2013.

It was up against competition from British agencies undertaking major landscape architecture developments around the world.

What Makes A View worked with Blackdown Hills communities and schools to find out which views mattered most to local people. It inspired children to think about and paint the beauty on their doorsteps, and encouraged local people to volunteer as landscape monitors.

It also applied a scientific approach to identifying the special qualities of the Blackdown Hills' views, and produced information to help planners and decision-makers to protect the landscape better in the future.

The judges commented: "This is a novel approach which focuses on bringing arts and science-based approaches together in examining views on the landscape."

The project was managed by the Blackdown Hills AONB Partnership's planning officer Lisa Turner and the work was carried out by landscape architect Fiona Fyfe with support from Debbie Solomon of Sological Solutions and Robin Lines of Robin Lines Landscape.

Lisa, Fiona and Debbie travelled to the ceremony, which was hosted by designer Wayne Hemmingway MBE, and were delighted to be presented with the award by Jaz Vilkhu of award sponsor Marshalls.

To find out more about What Makes A View, go to www.blackdownhillsaonb.org.uk/Looking-after.html.

THE Blackdown Samba Band provided musical entertainment outside St Paul's Church as shoppers visited the High Street stalls during Honiton's Victorian Bygone Christmas celebration.

NEWS *briefs*

Acoustic duo to perform at Clayhidon Village Hall

AN acoustic duo are heading for Clayhidon Village Hall next month.

Villages in Action present Ben and Alfie, a talented duo who have had a varied career performing at private events, festivals and concerts, as well as being commissioned to write music for film, theatre and dance.

Their repertoire is original and some is inspired by their time in Senegal, where they were lucky enough to spend two months living with the West-African musician Seckou Keita.

Both Ben and Alfie are classically trained but began playing and arranging old folk tunes.

They will be performing at Clayhidon Village Hall on Wednesday, February 12th.

More information and tickets are available from Bee Hill on Tel: 01823 680347 or email: beehill@hotmail.co.uk.

Local men questioned over garage break-ins

TWO local men have been interviewed relating to a series of garage break-ins in Dunkeswell.

They are currently on Police bail while enquiries continue.

Police found a number of items which had been reported stolen during a search at a local address.

In October there were numerous reports of garage break-ins in the Dunkeswell area, particularly on the Highfield Estate.

Numerous items were stolen including two motor bikes, sets of golf clubs and garden and power tools.

All incidents occurred over night.

A police spokesperson said: "We would like to thank the local community in Dunkeswell for their help and support during these enquiries."

View from the Blackdown Hills

is a community newspaper and welcomes contributions of news and photos from individuals, schools, organisations and businesses within the Blackdown Hills.

Please email your contributions to lisa@pemedia.co.uk jackie@pemedia.co.uk or blackdown@tindlenews.co.uk

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Faster broadband comes to Hemyock

HEMYOCK is among a list of rural communties in the Blackdown Hills set to benefit from high speed fibre optic broadband by the end of March, it has been announced.

By the end of March 2014, the Connecting Devon and Somerset programme will make fibre optic broadband available to a further 31 communities as part of a £94million roll out scheme across the two counties, enabling 90 per cent of properites access to high speed internet by the end of 2016.

This extends the number of homes and businesses that are able to benefit from the programme to 44,000.

The boost comes as a result of the detailed survey work undertaken during the past six months that is critical in determining the roll-out plan.

The latest communities included in the roll-out join seven towns and villages already announced. Parts of Holsworthy, Bradford-on-Tone and Sticklepath have already "gone live".

Blackdowns villages due to go live at the end of March include, Corfe, Hemyock, Sampford Arundel, Trull and West Buckland.

However, a number of villages have still not had confirmation that they will recieve an internet upgrade through the scheme, with residents concered they might miss out.

A new map has been published on the Connecting Devon and Somerset website, detailing locations which have been assessed for suitability, showing the final locations for this phase at a detailed postcode level. Residents and businesses will be able to see where this part of the roll-out will reach.

The map will continue to be updated as new locations suitable for the scheme are confirmed.

The multi million pound partnership includes Devon and Somerset County Councils, Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset, Plymouth and Torbay Councils, BT and the UK Government's Superfast Britain programme.

Councillor David Hall, Deputy Leader of Somerset County Council, said: "The Big Build now feels like it is truly underway. This tremendous step forward is a pay off for all the careful planning that goes on behind the scenes. The team has been working flat out to get to this stage. I look forward to the economic growth and development that access to high speed fibre broadband will bring."

Councillor Andrew Leadbetter, Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth for Devon County Council, said: "We are all aware that good connectivity is vital for our rural economy. Our businesses can now begin to take advantage of the opportunities improved broadband will bring in new markets, trading potential and productivity. To be able to make this major step forward is terrific news."

Ed Vaizey, Minister for Culture, Communications & Creative Industries added: "The news that 44,000 homes and businesses will have access to superfast speeds by March 2014 is fantastic news for the residents of Devon and Somerset.

"The UK already does more business online than any other European country and widespread access to superfast speeds will provide a welcome boost to the local economy."

Laurent Boon, BT's programme manager for Connecting Devon and Somerset, said: "The arrival of fibre broadband is one of the most important investments in Devon and Somerset in recent times. High-speed fibre broadband is transforming the way we live and work.

"For businesses, it can help deliver a competitive edge, which will help them attract new customers and find new, more efficient ways of working. For households, it's ideal for quick and efficient on-line shopping, entertainment, education, research and social networking."

Meanwhile, campaigners battling to ensure the broadband scheme is extended to all Devon and Somerset villages are continuing their fight.

A public meeting will be held in the Manor Rooms, Upottery, chaired by Neil Parish MP on Friday, February 7th at 6pm.

Also attending the meeting will be Keri Denton from Connecting Devon & Somerset together with Councillor Andrew Leadbetter.

For more information about the Connecting Devon & Somerset programme visit www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk and to find about more about the campaign for faster broadband visit www.upottery.com, where there is also a link to a petition.

Cannabis plants seized from house in Upottery

A 41-YEAR-old man was cautioned for unlawful possession of cannabis after Honiton police raided a home in Pipers Place, Upottery.

Officer executed a warrant under The Misuse of Drigs Act and PC Clive Vickery said: "A cannabis cultivation set up was found in the upstairs bedroom of the property and an outbuilding in the garden.

"This is another positive result in the disruption of supply and use of drugs in our area."

A police spokesperson added: "A 41-year-old man was interviewed in connection with the seized controlled drugs (not arrested) and was later cautioned for unlawful possession of cannabis.

"Seized were approximately 10grams of herbal cannabis and 13 cannabis plants."

Shop expands in to serving coffee

CHURCHINFORD Community Shop has opened its own coffee shop thanks to funding from the Making it Local grants scheme in the Blackdown Hills and East Devon AONB areas.

The village shop now offers fresh roasted coffee or a cup of tea in an apple oak framed building adjoined to the shop.

The permanent village shop opened earlier this year and has been growing with many in the community volunteering to run it.

The new coffee shop not only serves coffee but hosts a place for local artists to exhibit their work and is a place for local people to access information and use the internet.

Churchinford Directors would like to thank Maaking it Local for their help and support in securing the grant for the build and to Taunton Deane Borough Council, as a grant from their Economic Development Unit enabled the community shop to purchase the computer, café table and chairs and a security system.

Director Karen Tarr, said: "This is a much needed community initiative, and we're very pleased we can offer the coffee shop and the wider range of services it will provide and I'm sure local people will support it and make it a big success."

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Working our Woodlands

with John Greenshields

WE had the Royal Engineers from Norton in a woods near Clayhidon last month, as the parish council kindly let them use their woodland for chainsaw training. We assume the royal engineers just build bridges, but in fact they can be sent into a war zone to do any thing from making roads through woodlands to building secure bases.

It is extremely important that all those using chainsaws are trained in their use, not only because it makes common sense for the operator, but also for your next of kin. It is widely thought that most accidents with chainsaws are with the chainsaw its self, but 75 per cent of accidents in woodland are due to the operator being hit buy a tree or other bits of equipment.

We more mature chainsaw users tend to lapse back into bad habits and really need refresher courses every few years, having just been on one I can recommend it. Visit www.blaketraining.co.uk for some more information.

The Culmwoods co-op is now working in woodland around the Wellington Monument owned by the National Trust. The trust are opening out the visual aspect and thinning the woodland. Culmwoods as you may know are a "work for wood" group who will manage your woodland in exchange for wood fuel, none of which is sold, but used solely by members themselves. They are also negotiating with the Woodland Trust to help them manage their woodlands as well as private owners.

Fire wood has now become more expensive and will continue to rise, consequently it has become a commodity worth stealing. I have heard many more stories of wood "growing legs" and walking than ever before, the trouble is its not really traceable. Although I do know of a chap who marked his wood pile with paint and took a photo of it just in case, some of the wood was stolen and was traced by police because of his marking.

Deer management is part and parcel of any woodland management. On the one hand we want to see them as part of our wildlife, and on the other we need to keep the density to a sustainable level not only for the woodland itself, but also for a healthy herd. If you are employing in an outside Stalker you need to be very careful that he or she is not only qualified but also is not a "trophy hunter". Your deer manager needs to know the density of Deer on yours and the surrounding land before he or she starts any cull. The stalker also needs to know the ratio of males to females. There is absolutely no point in culling to many Bucks, as it's the females that control the population.

Help and advise can be found from the Deer initiative part of the Forestry Commission www.thedeerinitiative.co.uk.

Blackdowns clubs and societies

Bishopswood Ladies

SINCE the Christmas season had begun the December meeting commenced with mulled wine and mince pies produced by the committee.

The Bells had already given two Christmas performances and have a busy time ahead.

Ten ramblers, lead by Linda Gower, enjoyed a varied walk from Ilminster through Dowlish Wake, where they stopped for coffee at Perry's Cider, then through the grounds of Dillington House.

The skittlers played two matches and, unusually, lost both, one to Heather's Professionals by 11 pins and one to Henrietta and Friends, by seven pins.

Speaker John Crabb then took the meeting on a Photograhic Adventure of Birds in Flight.

As a practical man and a retired physicist, John invented an increasingly complex series of contraptions which he rigged up in the garden, whereby he could take photographs of birds in close up and in focus, even when in flight. These ranged from a basic camera linked to a telescope by a tube, so that the bids were magnified to the desired size, to a more elaborate construction positioned by the bird table which set the camera off just as the birds took flight between two strategically positioned screens.

The photographs thus produced showed common garden birds in a completely new light, with robins and blue tits showing the same aerodynamics and looking as dramatic as eagles. They also showed the wonderful way that feathers work, taking the stresses of flight and never breaking.

John's interest then turned to photographing birds in the countryside. Here sighting the birds is the major problem, and this involves a certain amount of luck and enormous amounts of time and patience, but the result was some amazing pictures of owls, kingfishers, bitterns and others, as well as the more unusual peregrine, great egret and short eared owl.

John brought along a selection of cards and prints for sale, and these beautiful pictures proved very popular.

A substantial supper was then provided by Rosanne Barrit, Rosemary Robson and Hazel Tucker.

The first meeting of the new year will be on Films and Videos for Education and Humanitarian Purposes. Visitors welcome.

Smeatharpe WI

THE main business of the evening was the presentation of the trophies for the year's competitions.

The Alice Clapp cup for the flower of the month was won by Geraldine Field with Sue Ferguson coming 2nd and Teresa Summerhayes 3rd.

The Stella Cup for the monthly competition was won jointly by Sue Ferguson and Geraldine Field with Sue Little 2nd and Teresa Summerhayes 3rd

What a wonderful party we had for our December meeting.

Copious supplies of mulled wine for the non-drivers and spiced apple-juice or lemonade for everyone else and really good food, what else at a WI party?

A Touch of Magic was supplied by Nigel Ford "I was at the front and I couldn't work out how he did it", and Meg Sparkes had members in stitches recounting her struggles with the Playtex girdle.

A brilliant raffle, free to members and visitors concluded the evening. The next meeting is January 9th 2014.

Hemyock WI

HEMYOCK WI had a really good meeting when the president welcomed 20 members despite several apologies.

Hemyock has won another skittles match in the county competition.

Their next opponents are Uffculme WI.

The sausage and mash lunch had been very successful and the president thanked all who had helped in any way.

It has resulted in two bursaries being available to help with the cost of courses at Denman College.

The birthday party will be at The Catherine Wheel on January 7th.

There will be a friendly skittles match with Bishopswood Ladies on January 22nd at The Sidmouth Arms and a team will take part in the County Quiz.

Lyn then introduced fellow member Cindy who soon had everyone making beautiful gift boxes.

The competition for the "Best Wrapped Parcel" which was also the "Secret Santa" gift, was won by Edith while Judith won the flower competition.

The evening finished with a "bring and share" supper and mulled wine.

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Blackdown Hills Transition Group

Is it time to change energy supplier?

"I hope you have all had a good Christmas and New Year. Of course when the festivities end, we generally make a number of resolutions, which of course fall by the wayside in a short period of time. So here is an important one to consider and I challenge you to do something about it - your electricity bill.

In the autumn of 2013 a lot of attention was focussed on the major suppliers of electricity (also known as 'the big six') who all put their prices up and added a bit more financial pain to our outgoings. But if you currently have your electricity supplied by one of these companies, there is nothing to stop you changing to another company, especially if you are not in a fixed period contract with them. So what information should you have when shopping for a better electrical energy tariff? First and foremost you should understand how much electricity you are using throughout the period of a year.

The basic measure is known as a "kilowatt hour". Simply stated this is the amount of electrical power required to power a 1,000 watt appliance for a period of one hour. It is expressed as 1 kWh but also equates to one unit of your electricity supply meter (which measures your consumption in kWh).

So if you have paid for 5,000 kWh of electricity during one year, this is your projected figure, which should be used in any comparative quotations from alternative suppliers.You should also know what cost a kWh of electricity is from your present supplier and how much is the "standing charge" (a rental value for your meter expressed either in a daily or quarterly figure). It is also useful to understand what an energy supplier pays for one kWh of electricity from the generating station. Surprisingly this is less than £0.06 and somehow it is sold to us at a very much higher figure (typically £0.14 or much more) then with five per cent VAT added.

So how do you choose a new supplier? The good news is that there are smaller companies out there who would like your business and they do not have the overheads of some of the larger companies and may be able to undercut their prices. Some companies offer the ethical approach of guilt-free power which is generated by 100 per cent renewable processes, as opposed to either nuclear of fossil fuel generating facilities. Others may provide a mix of generating sources, but give an offset in the form of rainforest stewardship to provide a more carbon-neutral approach to environmental safeguarding. The internet is a useful place to start searching for a supplier to satisfy your financial and environmental requirements. The important consideration here is to ensure that with some simple comparative arithmetic, you can find a better deal in the marketplace.

From 2010 to date, my electrical supplier has increased their annual fixed price kWh costs by over 30 per cent. I consider myself pretty shrewd when it comes to energy supply prices and whilst it is a large jump, other suppliers have made even higher increases. It is less painful to change energy providers than either moving bank accounts or broadband companies. Ultimately they do not owe you anything and will probably not give you a better deal even when challenged. We live in painful economic times and are all financially stressed. Costs of electrical energy are projected to increase by 100 per cent in less than ten years and will form a substantial portion of your outgoings unless you can shop around for a better deal.

If you are interested in finding out a bit more about the local Transition Group and want to come to our next meeting, it is on Wednesday February 5th 2014 at 7.30pm at the Merry Harriers pub, Clayhidon.

Neil Arnold
Vice Chair - Blackdown Hills Transition Group

Rockin' robins and shining stars at Combe St Nicholas nativity

FOXHOGS class from Combe St Nicholas Primary School, near Chard did a wonderful job of performing in front of a packed church to deliver their charming and funny nativity play.

The nativity included a variety of clolourful characters including robins, stars, angels, shepherds and sheep.

Headteacher Lesley Katner congratulated and thanked everyone involved in the performance and said how wonderful it was that a group of very tired four-years-olds had managed their lines so well and projected to the whole church.

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Royal Marines tidy up village woodland

THE Blackdown and East Devon Woodland Association have working with the Royal Marines Assault Engineers to carry out vital tree-felling for Clayhidon Parish Council.

Royal Marines from the commando training centre in Lympstone carried out some much needed tree-felling work at Hidon Woods as part of their Assault Engineer part 2 (AE2) training.

The AE2 course is designed to train AE Marines who have been selected for promotion to Corporal. It enables them to command an AE section of up to eight marines in all manner of tasks both here in the UK, and on operations and exercises overseas.

The course is nine weeks long and is made up of different modules ranging from power tools and water purification, to mines and minefields, demolitions and watermanship. A small part of the course is dedicated to chainsaw training, and in particular gaining the "Small Trees" qualification.

This gives the students a strong grounding from where they can build-up their experience, and enables them to carry out tree felling tasks in any environment in the world including jungle operations and disaster relief.

Clayhidon Parish Council helped the course achieve this training by allowing them to carry out some much needed tree work at Hidon Woods near the village.

Trees had to be felled which, due to the constricted location, was easier said than done! Safety was also paramount as the marines had to fell a number of high "hung-up" trees.

Despite the challenges, and together with local volunteers, new paths have now been established around the wood, routes into the wood have been cleared, and a good general tidying up of the whole area has been achieved.

Countryside volunteering strong in the Blackdowns

FOLLOWING two years of funding support from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Blackdown Hills AONB and the Forestry Commission, countryside volunteering is now a vibrant and growing activity in the Blackdown Hills.

Organisers of the "Force for Nature" project, which was led by the Blackdown Hills Trust, are celebrating the success of the two-year pump-priming project, which enabled 90 volunteering days to be held in beautiful countryside locations across the area.

People living in Wellington, Taunton and on the Hills themselves have come forward to help conserve this unique landscape and its wildlife.

The Neroche Conservation Volunteers have carried out tasks across the Neroche forest area, working on Forestry Commission, Somerset Wildlife Trust and Butterfly Conservation nature reserves, while volunteer parties have also been held on National Trust properties, for the RSPB, Bat Conservation Trust and others working to protect the landscape.

Nearly 300 people took part in additional "Discovery Days" organised through the project, which have helped people find out something more about the landscape – from having a go at landscape painting, to learning how to identify wildflowers and butterflies, and helping control invasive Himalayan balsam.

Those involved are of all ages and abilities and have gained much from their involvement including new friendships, improved fitness and a sense that they are doing something positive for the environment.

A one-stop-shop of web-based information has also been created by the Blackdown Hills AONB, so now people can easily find out what's going on by visiting www.blackdownhillsaonb.org.uk/volunteering.

Hilary is a regular Neroche Conservation Volunteer.

NEROCHE Conservation Volunteers at the Somerset Wildlife Trust's nature reserve at Ruggin

She said: "Working with the Neroche Conservation Volunteers has been great fun, and I've appreciated the company as well as the work. I have greatly enjoyed learning practical skills such as how to use tools for coppicing and green woodworking. I have refreshed my very rusty knowledge of plants and animals, and have learned to identify some butterflies I have never seen before."

Jilly Ould, who co-ordinated the work of the Neroche Conservation Volunteers, said: "It has been very rewarding to see the enthusiasm of the volunteers taking part, and the environmental benefits which follow. We are now looking forward to continuing to support the Neroche Conservation Volunteers into 2014, from here on through our new community woodland project, Neroche Woodlanders."

Linda Bennett of the Blackdown Hills AONB said: "Volunteering is a great way of enjoying our protected landscape, and contributing to its care. The Blackdown Hills AONB partnership is looking forward to providing more opportunities for local people to volunteer, through forthcoming projects."

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'Valleyheads Way' opens for walkers

WALKERS looking for some healthy exercise after the excesses of Christmas are being invited to try out a new walking trail in the Blackdown Hills, which has just been opened.

The Valleyheads Way offers a great way of discovering the beautiful Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, either for a long day's hike, or for a shorter circular walk.

It is a linear trail which runs from the centre of Hemyock village, for 12 miles up the Culm valley, all the way to Staple Hill – the highest point in the Blackdown Hills.

In between, the walk runs across the valleys of the Madford River and Bolham Water, across the Culm to Clayhidon and Burnworthy, past Churchstanton Church and past Trickey Warren, the old WWII airfield, to Otterford Church and through the upper Yarty valley, ending at Staple Hill car park.

It is a walking trail only (not for horseriders or cyclists), following existing Public Footpaths, on variable surfaces, some of them stoney, some muddy. Altogether the route passes through some fantastic countryside offering great views, and past places with fascinating histories.

For those who don't want to embark on a very long walk, the Valleyheads Way also offers the opportunity to do some shorter circuits back to Hemyock, of varying lengths, or to detour to some of the nearby pubs including the Half Moon at Clayhidon and the Merry Harriers.

The new trail can be recognised by looking for the specially designed waymarker disks which can be found on signposts and gateposts throughout the route.

The Valleyheads Way has been established by the Neroche Project with the support of both Devon and Somerset County Councils, and financial support from Making It Local and the Blackdown Hills AONB.

Making it Local is a locally managed grants scheme in the Blackdown Hills and East Devon AONB areas incorporating funding from the EU, Defra, and Leader +.

There is also a colourful leaflet to illustrate the trail, which includes a detailed route map and interesting facts about the features to be seen along the way.

The leaflet is being made available through local shops, pubs, tourist information outlets and the Blackdown Hills AONB office.

A route map and instructions will also be available to download on the AONB website.

Gavin Saunders, who oversaw the project to set up the Valleyheads Way, said: "We are delighted to be able to offer this new promoted trail, to local residents and visitors alike, as a way to encourage more people to enjoy our fantastic landscape.

"If you arrange to leave a car at Staple Hill car park, drive back in a second car and walk the whole route from Hemyock, it takes about six hours – a good hike offering a great sense of achievement and leading you through some of the Blackdown Hills' best kept secret places.

"Alternatively just make it a shorter jaunt by walking the first section and returning via the lanes – the leaflet gives full details of the options. All in all it's a great day out."

Networking event for businesswomen

THE Blackdown Hills Business Association will be hosting a "Women in Business or Starting a New Business" networking event with the Women's Development Unlimited.

The event is open for women who run their own business or who are interested in starting their own business.

Attendees will take part in a three hour session which will focus on development opportunities that are open to businesswomen via the Heart of Business Support programme; focus on your business and how you would like it to develop, share ideas and solutions to business issues and chat with other local business women.

The event will take place at the Candlelight Inn, Bishopswood from 10am to 1pm on Tuesday, January 14th 2014. The event is free but booking is essential. For more information visit www.bhba.co.uk.

Oh Christmas tree...

FESTIVE CHEER: St Nicholas' Church in Dunkeswell celebrated its second Christmas Tree Festival last weekend, with a range of decorative displays bringing the church to life for the festive period.

Members of the Parochial Church Council arranged for ten trees, donated by Nick and Heather Stevens, to be decorated by organisations and clubs from around the village, along with wreathes and floral arrangements inside the church.

The festival was capped on Saturday evening with a special concert including a performance by the HMS Heron RN Volunteer Band. Money raised from donations will go towards church funds.

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PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Pupils travel back in time for day of fun

PUPILS at St Andrew's Primary School in Chardstock re-enacted past times during a recent enrichment day.

Willow class were Egyptians for the day and Oak class were transported back to ancient Greece.

A school spokesperson said: "The children came dressed in appropriate costumes and took part in various activities including craft, jewellery making, mosaic making and drama.

"The best bit by far, according to the children, was food tasting. They all agreed that the day had been fantastic."

Pictured right are Oak class dressed as Ancient Greeks and below are Willow class as Eygptians

Festive friends

CHILDREN from Membury Pre-School, near Axminster, are pictured visiting Father Christmas at the donkey sanctuary in sidmouth.

The pre-school currently have spaces available.

Parents and children are more than welcome to arrange a visit or go along for taster sessions.

Phone 01404 881491 or visit the pre-school webpage on the Membury Primary School website.

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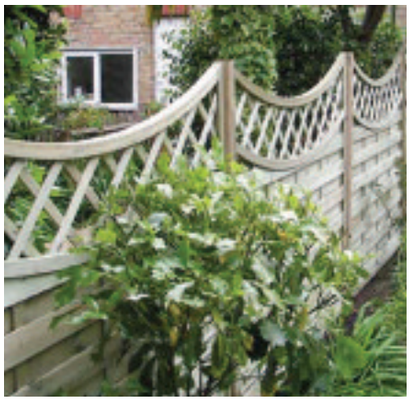

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